



UNITED STATES
ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
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Attendees of the Marshall Island Workshop
Livermore, California - June 27-29, 1977

At the Marshall Island Workshop several of you expressed concern over the planned criteria and cleanup activities scheduled for Enewetak Atoll in the near future. This concern led to an unsigned "statement of concern" being sent to Dr. Liverman through me. I thought you might be interested in what took place regarding this matter after our meeting.

In response to these expressed concerns, Dr. Bruce W. Wachholz was requested by Dr. Liverman to arrange for an immediate review of the adequacy of both the cleanup criteria and the crater disposal plans, together with any appropriate recommendations. This review was held August 15-17, 1977, at the Nevada Operations Office. A list of the review group chaired by Dr. William J. Bair, Battelle-Northwest, is enclosed. Briefings of the background of the guidance, of the current situation, and of proposed plans were presented by ERDA Headquarters personnel, by Nevada Operations Office personnel, and by Defense Nuclear Agency Headquarters and Field Command personnel. Opinions of all interested parties were freely discussed.

Considering all factors the review group unanimously found that both the cleanup criteria and the disposal plan were adequate and that neither would result in unacceptable health and environmental risks. Further, they reaffirmed the reasonableness of such activities. Consequently, following this review Dr. Liverman feels that plans should proceed as anticipated.

We hope that this review, a direct result of the Livermore Workshop, will help to assure you that all aspects of the situation have been considered not only by the several interested agencies and their staffs, but also by a group of laboratory experts covering a variety of disciplines and experience. This review has helped to reassure us that our goals and plans are appropriate ones, and we trust that you also will be reassured that your concerns were recognized and addressed.

W. W. Burr, Jr.

W. W. Burr, Jr., M.D.
Deputy Director
Division of Biomedical and
Environmental Research

Enclosure:
As stated

Observers

L. Joe Deal

Assistant Director for Field Operations
Division of Operational and Environmental Safety
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

Tommy F. McCraw

Division of Operational and Environmental Safety
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

Roger Ray

Assistant Manager for Environment and Safety
Nevada Operations Office
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

Paul B. Dunaway

Director, Bioenvironmental Sciences Division
Nevada Operations Office
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

Lt. Col. Edwin T. Still, D.V.M., USAF

Research Program Coordinator
Armed Forces Radiobiology Research Institute
Defense Nuclear Agency

Bruce W. Wachholz, Ph.D.

Office of the Assistant Administrator for Environment and Safety
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

GUESTS

Defense Nuclear Agency

Major General William E. Shedd, USA
Deputy Director for Operations and Administration

Brig. General Grayson D. Tate, USA
Commander, Field Command

Col. John Hemler, USA
Director of Operations, Field Command

Lt. Col. Manuel Sanches, USA
Logistics Directorate, Field Command

Mr. Thomas Flora
Logistics Directorate, Field Command

Mr. Milton E. Stevens
Logistics Directorate, Headquarters

Dr. Edward T. Bramlitt, Commander
Kirtland AFB, Field Command

Captain Ronald M. Spencer, USA
Field Command

Col. Charles J. Treat, USA
Field Command

U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

Gen. M. E. Gates, Manager
Nevada Operations Office

Paul J. Mudra, Director
Operations Support Division
Nevada Operations Office

U. S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

Wayne A. Bliss, MOR
Environmental Monitoring and Support Laboratory
Las Vegas, Nevada

APPENDIX

PARTICIPANTS IN REVIEW OF ENEWETAK CLEAN-UP CRITERIA AND DISPOSAL

NEVADA OPERATIONS OFFICE, LAS VEGAS, NEVADA

August 15-18, 1977

William J. Bair, Ph.D., Chairman
Manager, Biomedical and Environmental Programs
Battelle - Pacific Northwest Laboratory

Chester W. Francis, Ph.D.
Soil Scientist, Environmental Sciences Division
Oak Ridge National Laboratory

John H. Harley, Ph.D.
Director, Health and Safety Laboratory
U. S. Energy Research and Development Administration

John W. Healy
Assistant Leader, H-Division
Los Alamos Scientific Laboratory

Roger O. McClellan, D.V.M.
Director, Inhalation Toxicology Research Institute
Lovelace Foundation for Medical Education and Research

Victor E. Noshkin, Ph.D.
Section Leader for Marine Sciences, Environmental Sciences Division
Lawrence Livermore Laboratory

William Ogle, Ph.D.
3801 W. 44th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

William L. Templeton
Associate Manager, Ecosystems Department
Battelle - Pacific Northwest Laboratory

Roy C. Thompson, Ph.D.
Senior Staff Scientist, Biology Department
Battelle - Pacific Northwest Laboratory

Joseph Trimble, Ph.D.
Research Scientist
Battelle Human Affairs Research Center, Seattle